

***In the Claims:***

*Please substitute claims 1-28 presented below for claims 1-28 previously presented.*

*Please add claims 29-37. The status of each claim is indicated. Currently amended claims are shown with additions underlined and deletions in ~~striketrough~~.*

1. (Currently amended) A ureteral stent for facilitating drainage from a kidney of a patient to a bladder of the patient, the ureteral stent comprising:

an elongated portion having first and second ends defining a first portion of an internal lumen extending therebetween, and having a length sufficient to extend substantially within a ureter of the patient from the kidney to the bladder of the patient, the elongated portion not having a mesh construction;

a retention portion extending from the first end of the elongated portion, defining a second portion of the lumen, and defining at least one through aperture for providing fluid communication between the lumen and the kidney, the second portion extending from the first portion and the retention portion being adapted for placement substantially within the kidney; and

a mesh portion extending from the second end of the elongated portion, the mesh portion being adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and for extending into the bladder and being collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion.

2. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the mesh portion includes an outer covering.

3. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 2, wherein the outer covering includes a polymer.
4. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 3, wherein the polymer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyamide, silicone, and polyvinyl chloride.
5. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the mesh portion includes an inner lining.
6. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the mesh portion includes a resilient material.
7. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the retention portion includes a J-shaped hook portion.
8. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 1, wherein the retention portion includes at least one loop portion.
9. (Currently amended) A ureteral stent for facilitating drainage in a urinary system of a patient, the ureteral stent comprising:

an elongated portion extending from a first point to a second point and defining a first portion of an internal lumen extending between the first point and the second point, the elongated portion having a length sufficient to extend substantially within a ureter of the patient from a kidney to a bladder of the patient, the elongated portion not having a mesh construction; and

a mesh portion extending from the second point of the elongated portion, the mesh portion being adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of a ureter and for extension into a bladder of the patient and being collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion.

10. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 9, wherein the mesh portion includes an outer covering.

11. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 10, wherein the outer covering includes a polymer.

12. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 11, wherein the polymer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyamide, silicone, and polyvinyl chloride.

13. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 9, wherein the mesh portion includes an inner lining.

14. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 9, wherein the mesh portion includes a resilient material.

15. (Currently amended) A ureteral stent for facilitating drainage from a kidney of a patient to a bladder of the patient, the ureteral stent comprising:

an elongated portion having first and second ends defining a first portion of a lumen extending therebetween, and having a length sufficient to extend substantially within a ureter from the kidney to the bladder of the patient;

a retention portion extending from the first end of the elongated portion, defining a second portion of the lumen, and defining at least one through aperture for providing fluid communication between the lumen and the kidney, the second portion extending from the first portion, and the retention portion being adapted for placement substantially within the kidney; and

a coil portion extending from the second end of the elongated portion and comprising a wound coil, the wound coil portion being adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and for extension into the bladder, the coil portion-and being sized and configured to be collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion.

16. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 15, wherein the wound coil includes an outer covering.

17. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 16, wherein the outer covering includes a polymer.

18. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 17, wherein the polymer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyamide, silicone, and polyvinyl chloride.

19. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 15, wherein the wound coil includes an inner lining.

20. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 15, wherein the retention portion includes a J-shaped hook portion.

21. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 15, wherein the retention portion includes at least one loop portion.

22. (Currently amended) A ureteral stent for facilitating drainage in a urinary system of a patient, the ureteral stent comprising:

a wound coil portion adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of a ureter of the patient and for extension into a bladder of the patient, the coil portion ~~and~~ being sized and configured to be collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion.

23. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 22, wherein the wound coil includes an outer covering.

24. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 23, wherein the outer covering includes a polymer.

25. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 24, wherein the polymer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyamide, silicone, and polyvinyl chloride.

26. (Previously amended) The stent of claim 22, wherein the wound coil includes an inner lining.

27. (Currently amended) A method of placing a ureteral stent in a patient, the method comprising:

providing a ureteral stent comprising:

an elongated portion having first and second ends defining a first portion of a lumen extending therebetween, and having a length sufficient to extend substantially within a ureter of the patient from a kidney of the patient to a bladder of the patient, the elongated portion not having a mesh construction;

a retention portion extending from the first end of the elongated portion, defining a second portion of the lumen, and defining at least one through aperture for providing fluid communication between the lumen and the kidney, the second portion extending

from the first portion and the retention portion being adapted for placement substantially within the kidney; and

a mesh portion extending from the second end of the elongated portion, the mesh portion being adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and for extension into the bladder and being collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion;

inserting the ureteral stent into the ureter of the patient; and

positioning the ureteral stent in the patient with the retention portion substantially within the kidney of the patient and the mesh portion substantially within the intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and extending into the bladder.

28. (Currently amended) A method of placing a ureteral stent in a patient, the method comprising:

providing a ureteral stent comprising:

an elongated portion having first and second ends defining a first portion of a lumen extending therebetween, and having a length sufficient to extend substantially within a ureter of the patient from a kidney to a bladder of the patient;

a retention portion extending from the first end of the elongated portion, defining a second portion of the lumen, and defining at least one through aperture for providing fluid communication between the lumen and the kidney, the second portion extending from the first portion and the retention portion being adapted for placement substantially within the kidney; and

a coil portion extending from the second end of the elongated portion and including a wound coil, the wound coil being adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and for extension into the bladder, the coil portion~~and~~ being sized and configured to be collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion;

inserting the ureteral stent into the ureter of the patient; and  
positioning the ureteral stent in the patient with the retention portion substantially within the kidney of the patient and the wound coil substantially within the intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and extending into the bladder.

29. (New) A ureteral stent for facilitating drainage from a kidney of a patient to a bladder of the patient, the ureteral stent comprising:

an elongated portion having first and second ends defining a first portion of a lumen extending therebetween, and having a length sufficient to extend substantially within a ureter from the kidney to the bladder of the patient, the elongated portion not having a coiled construction;

a retention portion extending from the first end of the elongated portion, defining a second portion of the lumen, and defining at least one through aperture for providing fluid communication between the lumen and the kidney, the second portion extending from the first portion, and the retention portion being adapted for placement substantially within the kidney;  
and



a coil portion extending from the second end of the elongated portion and comprising a wound coil, the wound coil portion being adapted for placement substantially within an intramural tunnel portion of the ureter and for extension into the bladder and being collapsible under radial compression from the intramural tunnel portion.

30. (New) The stent of claim 29, wherein the wound coil includes an outer covering.
31. (New) The stent of claim 29, wherein the outer covering includes a polymer.
32. (New) The stent of claim 29, wherein the polymer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyamide, silicone, and polyvinyl chloride.
33. (New) The stent of claim 29, wherein the wound coil includes an inner lining.
34. (New) The stent of claim 29, wherein the retention portion includes a J-shaped hook portion.

35. (New) The stent of claim 29, wherein the retention portion includes at least one loop portion.

36. (New) The ureteral stent of claim 1, wherein the elongated portion defines a plurality of openings between the first end of the elongated portion and the second end of the elongated portion, each of the plurality of openings is in fluid communication with the lumen.

37. (New) The ureteral stent of claim 9, wherein the elongated portion defines a plurality of openings between the first point of the elongated portion and the second point of the elongated portion, each of the plurality of openings is in fluid communication with the lumen.